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E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [OPDC](#) [IZ](#)  
SUBJECT: LETTER FROM VICE PRESIDENT TARIQ AL-HASHIMI TO  
PRESIDENT OBAMA

¶1. On July 5 Embassy Baghdad received the following letter from Vice President Hashimi to President Obama on the occasion of Independence Day. A similar letter was sent to Vice President Biden. Both original letters will be transmitted to NEA/I/POL via pouch mail.

Begin text of message:

Republic of Iraq  
The Vice President  
Tariq Al-Hashimi

His Excellency Barack Obama,  
President of the United States of America  
Washington, D.C.

On the occasion of the National Day of the United States of America, please accept my most sincere congratulations and best wishes to you and the American people whom we consider as our friend.

My highest regards  
(signed)

Tariq Al-Hashimi,  
Vice President of the Republic of Iraq  
Baghdad, 4 July 2009

End text of message

HILL